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## Champions of Change

WINNING the FUTURE ACROSS AMERICA

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# Momentum Builds in Michigan into a Chorus of Welcoming

Posted by Christine Sauvé on September 19, 2013 at 03:02 PM EDT

*Christine Sauvé is being honored as a Champion of Change for working tirelessly to effectively integrate immigrants civically, linguistically, and socially into the fabric of their neighborhoods.*



Welcoming Michigan is one of the twenty-two Welcoming America affiliates' which organizes activities and uses positive messages to highlight the shared values and contributions of immigrants. Whether you emigrated from Mexico, your grandparents migrated from the southern U.S., your great grandparents came from Poland, or your Anishinaabe ancestors traveled here from Canada, everyone has a migration or immigration story to tell.

I come to this work as the granddaughter and great granddaughter of immigrants and can appreciate the sacrifices and hard work of my immigrant neighbors. As a Peace Corps volunteer, I saw first-hand the challenges faced by those wanting to move to America to make a better life for themselves and their families. In my travels I have been a stranger dependent on the kindness of others. I am also a community organizer and believe that good things happen when you bring people together.

At Welcoming Michigan I work with local communities to help U.S. and foreign-born residents get to know each other, share stories, and develop mutual respect and understanding. This immigrant integration initiative grew out of the 2010 Global Detroit study and is now a project of the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center. Since launching in 2012, we have posted five billboards, facilitated four welcoming committees with over 50 members, and hosted more than 60 events that have reached over 3,000 attendees.

We couldn't have done this without the active participation of dedicated volunteers or "Welcoming Committees," made up of leaders from community organizations, faith groups, schools, businesses, law enforcement, and city government to organize activities to connect longtime and new residents. Community members engage in dialogue at film screenings, cooking classes, and multicultural celebrations. Committee members set a positive tone in their communities by promoting and modeling inclusivity.

In Detroit I work with community leaders who bring neighbors together through a TimeBank, an Arab community center, and a youth advocacy network. I know young Yemeni immigrants who are always willing to lend a helping hand and build bridges across race and ethnicity. I know African American residents who enjoy meeting their Mexican neighbors at community cooking classes. In Sterling Heights and Macomb County I work with dedicated and forward-thinking city and county staff, refugee resettlement agencies, and members of the business community. In Hamtramck, religious leaders, librarians, and public safety officers care about making their community a welcoming and harmonious one. In southwest Michigan, my colleague works with school board members, migrant farmworkers, and small town residents willing to share stories of welcoming and migration.

In addition to a Welcoming Week proclamation from our Governor, seven Michigan communities have issued resolutions encouraging longtime residents to join with immigrant neighbors in a spirit of unity. We frequently receive requests from folks excited about welcoming newcomers and wanting to get involved. It is heartening to hear so many voices from our Great Lakes State joining in a chorus of "Welcome," "Marhaba," and "Bienvenidos".

*Christine Sauvé is the Southeast Communities Coordinator for Welcoming Michigan, a grassroots immigrant integration initiative of the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center.*

See more about [Immigration](#)


## YOUR FEDERAL TAXPAYER RECEIPT



The White House Blog  
 Middle Class Task Force  
 Council of Economic Advisers  
 Council on Environmental Quality  
 Council on Women and Girls  
 Office of Intergovernmental Affairs  
 Office of Management and Budget  
 Office of Public Engagement  
 Office of Science & Tech Policy  
 Office of Urban Affairs  
 Open Government  
 Faith and Neighborhood Partnerships  
 Social Innovation and Civic Participation  
 US Trade Representative  
 Office National Drug Control Policy

### CATEGORIES

AIDS Policy  
 Blueprint for an America Built to Last  
 Equal Pay  
 White House Internships  
 Civil Rights  
 Defense  
 Disabilities  
 Economy  
 Education  
 Energy and Environment  
 Ethics  
 Faith Based  
 Family  
 Fiscal Responsibility



# GLOBAL DETROIT

**Immigration and America's Economic Future:  
The Case for Immigration-Centered  
Economic Development**

Presentation to the House Standing Committee  
on Michigan Competitiveness  
October 2, 2013

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## The Detroit Crisis

1950: 1.8 million  
2010: 713,777  
2013: Largest municipal  
bankruptcy in U.S. history

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## The Michigan Crisis

Nearly one million lost jobs (4.7 million to 3.9 million June 2000 to July 2009—21% loss).  
Michigan's per capita income rank: 17<sup>th</sup> (1999) to 40<sup>th</sup> (2009).  
26% loss in average home sales price. 33% of mortgages under water. \$63 billion loss of wealth from Michigan families.

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**STARTUPS:**  
**New employment paradigm**

- **ALL** net job creation in America over the last 25 years comes from **STARTUPS**—creating 40 million new jobs
- **NEW FIRMS** add an average of 3 million jobs in their first year annually
- Older companies average losing 1 million jobs on an annual basis

--Kauffman Foundation

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**When it comes to job growth, STARTUP companies aren't everything.....**  
**they're the ONLY THING!**

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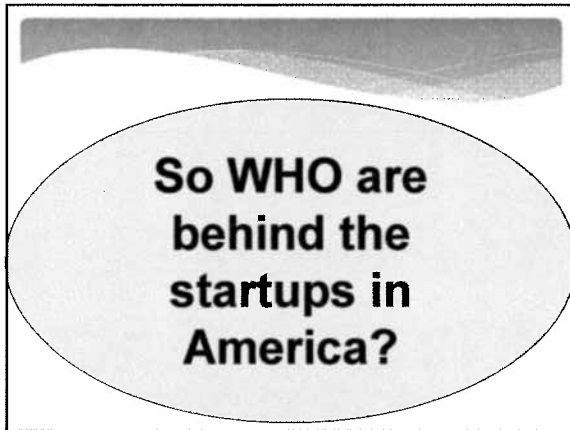
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## U.S. Immigrants Are Driving Innovation

Immigrants are estimated to comprise **over 50%** of the listed **inventors** for all **international patents** filed from Michigan in 2006, suggesting that immigrants are more than 8 times as likely to invent something seeking an international patent.

--Research by Vivek Wadhwa  
Duke University  
School of Business




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## U.S. Immigrants Are Driving Innovation

In 2009, **8 of the 9 Nobel Prize winners in science** were Americans, and **5 of those 8 Americans were foreign born**.

In fact, **foreign born Americans won more Nobel Prizes in science in 2009 than all the other nations of the world combined**.




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Where do we go from here?

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- February 2009 - Study Commenced
- June 2010 - Study Completed
- January 2011 - Global Michigan Announced
- July 2012 - Global Detroit Incorporated
- April 2013 - **5 Fully-Launched Initiatives; a Dozen Initiatives in Development or Prototyping; Over \$5 Million Committed; Nationally Recognized** (Migration Policy Institute; National League of Cities; Governing Magazine; Washington Post; Wall Street Journal; Money; The Financial Times; etc.)

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**Global Detroit Study Results:  
Immigration and The New Economy**

**\*Created 25% of all high-tech firms nationally from 1995-2005**

- \* **52%** of Silicon Valley's high-tech firms from 1995-2005
- \* **32.8%** of Michigan's high-tech firms (ranking Michigan #3 after CA and NJ and making them **six times** as likely to create a high-tech firm)

--Duke University and UC-Berkeley

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**Global Detroit Study Results:  
Immigration and The New Economy**

**\*Account for 25% of all venture-backed firms that have had public offerings 1995-2005**

National Venture Capital Association

- \* Are estimated to comprise **over 50%** of the listed **inventors** for all **international patents** filed from Michigan in 2006 (giving MI immigrants 8x)

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**Global Detroit Study Results:  
Immigration and The New Economy**

- \* International students are **3 times** (38% vs. 14%) as likely to major in STEM fields
- \* Immigrants make up:
  - \* 50% of all new U.S. Ph.D.s in engineering;
  - \* 45% of all new U.S. Ph.D.s in life sciences, physical sciences, and computer sciences;
  - \* 40% of all new U.S. master degrees in computer sciences, physical sciences, and engineering; and
  - \* 25% of all practicing physicians

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**“To immigrate is  
an entrepreneurial  
act”**

—Ed Roberts, Founder  
MIT Entrepreneurship Center

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**Global Detroit Study Results:  
Immigration and The Michigan Economy**

- \* Nationally, immigrants start businesses at **twice the rate** of native born Americans
- \* In Michigan, immigrants have entrepreneurship rates **three times** the native born

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### Global Detroit Study Results: Immigration and The Michigan Economy

Immigrants are younger and have higher labor force participation rates.

In Michigan, **64.4% of immigrants are working age** vs. 50% of the native born population, an incredibly important statistic in a rapidly aging state and the only state to have lost population between the 2000 and 2010 Censuses.




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### Immigration and The Economy

- \* More than **40%** of the 2010 **Fortune 500** companies were founded by immigrants or their children, employing more than 10 million people worldwide.
- \* These companies boast **revenues of \$4.2 trillion** – a figure greater than the GDP of every country in the world except the U.S., China, and Japan




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It's important that we understand **WHY** so many Americans fear and loathe the new immigrants.

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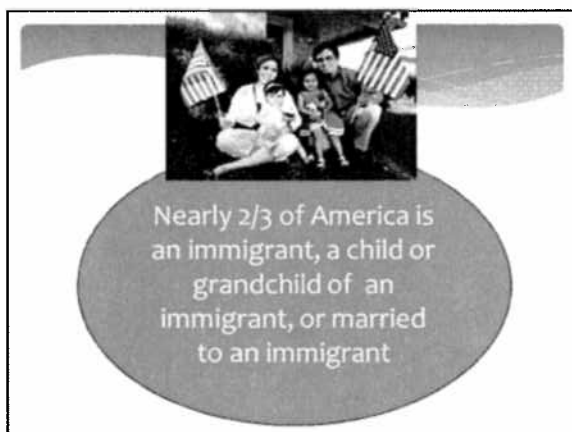
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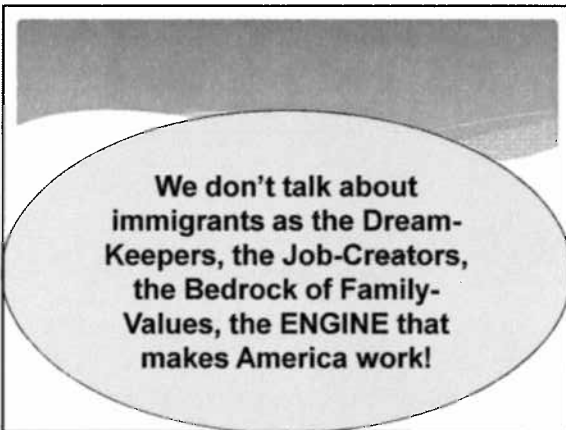
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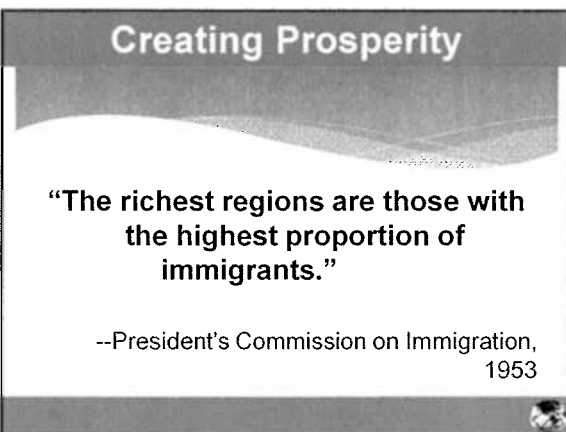
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## Global Detroit Talent Initiatives

- ✧ **International Student Retention - Global Talent Retention Initiative**
- ✧ **Training, Advising, and Placing Work Authorized Skilled Immigrant and Refugee Professionals - Upwardly Global**





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## Global Detroit Talent Initiatives

**25,551** international students in Michigan (up 3.3%) **8<sup>th</sup> highest** international student population in the U.S...

**= \$758.7 million**  
(Estimated international students' economic impact in Michigan)




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## Global Detroit Talent Initiatives

- **Upwardly Global** works with skilled immigrants and employers to eliminate barriers to full employment and use of their skills.
- **Placed 1,500** formerly underemployed immigrants back into their professional careers in **engineering, IT, healthcare, finance, accounting**, and more since 2005.
- Benefits include **millions in additional tax revenue, consumer spending, and thousands of indirect and induced jobs created** from these placements. Estimated 300% return on investment.




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## Attracting International Investment



**INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT**

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## Homeshoring and Nearshoring

- \* Homeshoring / Reshoring
  - \* New or returning manufacturing or service sector jobs that were or would otherwise be located overseas.
- \* Midwest, Rust Belt, and South are uniquely positioned
- \* Nearshoring




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*the Atlantic*

**The Insourcing Boom** DECEMBER 2012.

After years of offshore production, General Electric is now big mail of its for-fung appliances manufacturing operations back home. It is not alone. An exploration of the startling, sustainable turn getting started return of industry to the United States.

**Michigan**

**Will 'reshoring' trend bring manufacturing jobs back to Michigan?**

**THE POST POLITICS** Jan 25, 2012

**Obama Economic Plan To Discourage Outsourcing, Reward 'Insourcing'**

**The Economist**

**Manufacturing**

**The end of cheap China**

What do soaring Chinese wages mean for global manufacturing?

Nov 10th 2012 (HONG KONG AND SHENZHEN) from the print edition

**We are not necessarily saying that outsourcing is not going to happen anymore. Rather, we're saying it's practiced much more selectively.**

**The Washington Post**

By Peter H. Ravnitzky, HONOLULU, HAWAII

**U.S. manufacturing sees shortage of skilled factory workers**

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## Attract international investment and business

### EB-5 Individual Investors

- \* In order to obtain an EB-5 green card, investor must:
  - Invest \$1 million. Alternatively, at least \$500,000 in a "Targeted Employment Area" (high unemployment or rural area); and
  - create at least 10 jobs for U.S. workers.
- \* Investment can be in new or existing "Troubled Business."

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## Attract International Investment and Business

### EB-5 Regional Centers - Vermont



- \* Jay Peak resort secured \$250M of foreign equity capital to transform struggling ski-only facility to year round resort.
- \* Investment represented 330 investors from 55 countries.
- \* 3,000 direct and indirect jobs through life of the program.

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## Cultural Ambassadors

- \* Modeled after program developed by Ann Arbor SPARK

@nn.arbor.usa



- \* Goal - to leverage existing international populace to attract international talent and businesses, and promote integration

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## Make the Region Welcoming

- Welcoming Michigan
- Global Detroit Welcome Mat
- Leadership Detroit, Leadership Oakland, Leadership Macomb, and Leadership Ann Arbor
- New Michigan Media



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## Welcoming Michigan Welcoming America







**JUST ANOTHER GREAT  
NEBRASKA FAN**

**RUGGED  
INDIVIDUALS  
MADE HERE**

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## Global Michigan

"We will establish an exciting new initiative to encourage immigrants with advanced college degrees to come to Michigan to live and work.  
... **Immigration made us a great state and country. It is time we embrace this concept again as a way to speed our reinvention.**"

-- Michigan Governor Rick Snyder  
State of the State Address, January 19, 2011

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**A Global America:  
Securing 21<sup>st</sup> Century America**

"Dear America, please remember how you got to be the wealthiest country in history.  
...the formula was very simple: build this really flexible, really open economy, tolerate creative destruction so dead capital is quickly redeployed to better ideas and companies,  
Pour into it the most diverse, smart and energetic immigrants from every corner of the world and then stir and repeat, stir and repeat, stir and repeat."



Tom Friedman – "World Is Flat" Guy  
New York Times Editorial Writer and Author

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DETROIT**

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